

## ***Finance Committee Meeting Minutes, March 28, 2006***

Those Present: Sharon Estrella – Chair, Al DeVito, Peter Costas, Skip Manter

Guests: Bruce Stone – Town Accountant, Richard Knabel, Brian Athearn, Dan Pace

The FinCom Recommendation sheet was reviewed.

- Article 3 - the Budget - was discussed. Al will make some revisions in the wording having to do with the increase in the UIRSD budget.
- Article 10 – Road Maintenance – will be reworded.

Al DeVito asked the Finance Committee to reconsider their vote on Article 19 – Town-Wide Space Needs and Feasibility Study. The Capital Improvements Committee has revised this article and has reduced the requested amount from \$100,000 to \$5,000. Al spoke to the need of the town to evaluate the space needs for the town as a whole. The CIC would like to select a committee to evaluate the space needs of the town. They plan to hold public hearings, possibly mail out surveys, and in the end, determine what the citizens really want, including their opinions about a new town hall. The money requested in this article will most likely be used for a mailing and other administrative costs.

Peter Costas is in favor of looking at the space needs of the entire town including town hall space needs. He thinks that there is in-house talent that could do this without requiring the town to spend money, however, if this article were to be amended he would like to see it worded to include how the money will be accounted for.

Skip Manter pointed out that the FinCom cannot vote on an article that they do not have before them, however, they could put a note in the recommendations to encourage the voters to vote yes if the article is amended on the town floor.

The recommendations sheet for the Special Town Meeting has been reviewed and approved.

The pamphlet, *Town of West Tisbury Proposed Budget for FY2007: Finance Committee Comments*, was reviewed. One revision was requested on Table 1. Thanks to Al DeVito for preparing this.

The first draft of the one-scenario part of the RFP from Jim Halley was reviewed. The Finance Committee had some questions they would like to ask Mr. Halley. Al will arrange a meeting for this week. The questions had to do with payments of principal and interest, food services, transportation, SPED costs and the amount of increased cost to the West Tisbury School.

Bruce Stone asked if the Finance Committee would consider a reserve fund transfer of up to \$2,000, if requested, to cover transportation costs for the candidates for the position of Head Librarian. It was decided that they would.

In response to a question from Al about departmental revenue reporting, Bruce Stone handed out a table (on file) *Town of West Tisbury FY 2007 Budget Estimate of Amounts to be Raised and Receipts*. In 2006, town receipts funded approximately 8% of the budget. Skip asked if there could be a breakdown by department. Al suggested an estimated revenue line for future budgets.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of March 13, 14, and 20. The motion was seconded. Skip requested that when the minutes are being done on the votes for the various town meeting warrant articles, that a brief description be given of the article. Also he noted a correction in the spelling of Mr. Klaren's name. The motion to approve the minutes passed with 4 in favor and 1 part-abstention to the minutes of March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Jonathan Revere asked if the Finance Committee was up to date with their review of the legal bills. There was some discussion as to whether or not the FinCom should see the bills before they are paid. Sharon will ask Bruce Stone for an update on the legal bills.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie Eldridge